COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL

No. 1788

Annual Report on the Social and Economic Progress of the People of the

FALKLAND ISLANDS

1935

(For Reports for 1933 and 1934 see Nos. 1699 and 1749 respectively (Price 1s. 3d. each).)

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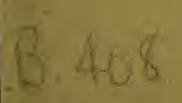


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ANNUAL REPORT ON THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC PROGRESS OF THE PEOPLE OF THE COLONY OF THE FALKLAND ISLANDS AND ITS DEPENDENCIES FOR THE YEAR 1935

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PART I.—THE COLONY.

I.—GEOGRAPHY, CLIMATE, AND HISTORY.

The Falkland Islands lie in the South Atlantic Ocean some 300 miles east and somewhat to the north of the Straits of Magellan between 51° and 53° south latitude and 57° and 62° west longitude. In addition to the two main islands, known as the East and West Falklands, which are divided by the Falkland Sound, running approximately north-east and south-west, the group comprises about 200 smaller islands clustered around them within a space of 120 by 60 miles. The area of the group, as computed by measurement from the Admiralty chart, is as follows:

| | | Square | Miles. |
|------------------------------------|-------|-------------|--------|
| East Falkland and adjacent islands | • • • | \dots 2,5 | 80 |
| West Falkland and adjacent islands | • • • | 2,0 | 38 |
| | | | _ |
| Total area of the group | • • • | 4,6 | 18 |

The islands have a very deeply indented coast-line and possess many excellent harbours and anchorages. The surface is hilly, attaining its maximum elevation of 2,315 ft. in Mount Adam on the West Falkland. There are no rivers navigable at any distance from The entire country is covered with wild moorland the coast. interrupted by outcrops of rock and the peculiar collection of angular boulders called "stone runs" the origin of which is scientifically disputed. There is no cultivation except in the immediate vicinity of the farm settlements and shepherds' houses where vegetables and in some places oats and hay are grown. The soil is chiefly peat, but considerable areas of sand also occur. In comprehensive appearance the Falkland Islands are bleak and inhospitable. Trees are almost entirely absent and the scenery is said to resemble parts of Scotland and the northern islands. The only town is Stanley, the capital, situated on a natural harbour entered from Port William, at the north-east corner of the group. It has about 1,200 inhabitants. Smaller settlements have been established throughout the Colony as the headquarters of the various farm stations into which it is divided; of these the most important is Darwin, the headquarters of the Falkland Islands Company, with a population of about 100 persons.

The climate of the Falkland Islands is characterized by the same seasonal variations as in the United Kingdom. These are, however, less noticeable in the Colony on account of its scant vegetation. The winters are slightly colder and the summers much cooler than in London, which is about as far north of the equator as Stanley The average midsummer temperature of the Colony is even lower than the annual mean at London. While the relatively low temperatures are mainly due to the oceanic circulation, the daily weather is largely dependent on the direction of the wind, which, not infrequently, is so inconstant as to give rise to wide ranges of temperature within short intervals. Though the annual rainfall is not excessive, averaging only 26 ins., precipitation occurs on two out of every three days in the year, and, in consequence, the atmosphere is usually damp. A large proportion of the days are cloudy and tempestuous, calm, bright

weather being exceptional and seldom outlasting 24 hours.

The Falkland Islands, called by the French "Iles Malouines" and by the Spaniards "Islas Malvinas", were discovered on 14th August, 1592, by John Davis in the Desire, one of the vessels of the squadron sent to the Pacific under Cavendish. They were seen by Sir Richard Hawkins in the Dainty on 2nd February, 1594, and were visited in 1598 by Sebald Van Weert, a Dutchman, and styled by him the Sebald Islands, a name which they still bear on some of the Dutch maps. Captain Strong in the Welfare sailed through between the two principal islands in 1690 and called the passage, where he landed at several points and obtained supplies of wild geese and fresh water, the Falkland Sound, in memory of the well-known Royalist, Lucius Cary, Lord Falkland, killed at the battle of Newbury in 1643; and from this the group afterwards took its Engish name of "Falkland Islands" although this name

does not appear to have been given to it before 1745.

The first settlement on the islands was established in 1764 by de Bougainville on behalf of the King of France, with a small colony of Acadians transferred from Nova Scotia, at Port Louis in the East Falkland Island on Berkeley Sound. In the following year Captain Byron took possession of the West Falkland Island and left a small garrison at Port Egmont on Saunders Island, which lies off and close to the north coast of the mainland.

The Spaniards, ever jealous of interference by other nations in the southern seas, bought out the French from the settlement at Port Louis, which they renamed Soledad in 1766, and in 1770 forcibly ejected the British from Port Egmont. This action on the part of Spain led the two countries to the verge of war. settlement was restored, however, to Great Britain in 1771, but was again in 1774 voluntarily abandoned. The Spaniards in turn abandoned their settlements early in the nineteenth century, and the entire group of islands appears for some years to have remained without formal occupation and without inhabitants until in 1829 Louis Vernet, enjoying the nominal protection of the Government of the Republic of Buenos Aires, planted a new colony at Port Louis. Vernet thought fit to seize certain vessels belonging to the United States' fishing fleet and in 1831 his settlement suffered from an American punitive expedition. Finally, in 1833, Great Britain, who had never relaxed her claim to the sovereignty of the Falkland Islands, expelled the few Argentine soldiers and colonists yet remaining at Port Louis and resumed occupation, which has been maintained without break to the present day.

The Colony was under the charge of Naval Officers engaged in making Admiralty surveys until 1843, in which year a Civil Administration was formed, the headquarters of Government being at Port Louis until 1844, when they were removed to Stanley, then called Port William. Prior to the opening of the Panama Canal, the Falkland Islands lay on the main sea route from Europe, through the Straits of Magellan to the west coast of South America, and in the days of sail frequently harboured vessels which had been worsted in the struggle to round Cape Horn. On 8th December, 1914, they were the scene of the naval battle in which Sir F. C. Doveton Sturdee defeated and destroyed the German Squadron under Admiral Graf von Spee, and a memorial commemorating this

victory was unveiled at Stanley on 26th February, 1927.

II.—GOVERNMENT.

At the head of the Government of the Colony is the Governor and Commander-in-Chief, who is advised by an Executive Council consisting of five official and one unofficial members. There is also a Legislative Council composed of four official and four unofficial

members, the latter being nominated by the Crown. The Colony received a regular grant-in-aid from the Imperial Treasury until 1880, and a special grant for a mail service until 1885, since which date it has been wholly self-supporting. There is no local government in the Colony.

III.—POPULATION.

The inhabitants of the Falkland Islands are of European, chiefly British, descent, Scotch blood being marked. There is no indi-

genous or native population.

The 1931 census showed the total population as amounting to 2,392 compared with 2,094 in 1921 and 2,043 in 1901. Of this number, 1,358 were males and 1,034 females. On the 31st of December, 1935, the estimated population was 2,432, made up of 1,349 males and 1,083 females. The density of the population is about one person to every two square miles. Approximately one-half of the inhabitants live in Stanley, the capital, and the remainder are divided more or less equally between outlying districts of the East and West Falklands. The number of births registered in 1935 was 50, and of deaths 19, or respectively 20.55 and 7.81 per 1,000. Twenty-two marriages were celebrated during the year. Two deaths occurred among children under the age of two years. Eighty-two persons arrived in the Colony and one hundred and eighteen persons left in the course of the period under review.

IV.—HEALTH.

The climate is healthy, especially in the Camp districts, but damp in and about Stanley; consequently it is not very suitable for persons

with any rheumatic tendencies.

During the summer months the constant high winds are rather trying. The weather conditions in winter are slightly milder and more pleasant than those of the north of England. The conditions of living are simple; the ordinary social amenities of a larger Colony are almost entirely lacking. The quality of the food is good but lacks variety especially with regard to vegetables, but with care in cultivation it is possible to guarantee at least a nine months' supply. Fruit is imported from Montevideo and the supply becomes better each year with the improved transport and a greater local demand. Steps are being taken both by the Medical and Stock Departments to improve the supply of fresh milk in the town of Stanley.

Dental caries and pyorrhoea are very prevalent amongst the Falkland Islanders, the children suffering from defective teeth at a very early age. The contributory factors are lack of calcium in the water and a deficiency in green food. The Dental Surgeon makes periodical tours of the East and West Falklands and holds a

special clinic for school children every Saturday morning.

Vaccination is compulsory and the Vaccination Ordinance is rigidly enforced, every Medical Officer being appointed a Public Vaccinator for the area in which he is stationed.

Gastritis and dyspepsia are common complaints. Twenty-eight appendicectomies were performed during 1935, the majority being in the quiescent stage. It is interesting to note that since 1920, 248 appendicectomies have been performed; this is 9.5 per cent. of the population. From time to time outbreaks of acute enteritis occur but so far the origin of these outbreaks has not been definitely determined. Gastro-intestinal influenza broke out in June.

Coryza in epidemic form is very common. During the months of July and August a severe outbreak of bronchial influenza occurred affecting the whole population of Stanley and spreading to the West Falkland and many settlements on the East Falkland.

Fifteen cases of tuberculosis were under treatment during the year. The incidence of bovine tuberculosis is being investigated, the double intradermal test being used.

Sixty-three school children were under treatment for impetigo contagiosa. A small epidemic of chicken-pox occurred early in the year. Thread worm infection is very common among the children; one case of Hydatid disease was operated upon.

Of the twenty-four officials recruited from the United Kingdom six reported sick with various minor ailments.

Forty-three confinements took place in the hospital and five in the town, making a total of forty-eight as compared with thirty in the previous year. During the year an infant welfare clinic was established with most encouraging results.

The Government maintains out of public funds a hospital in Stanley, the King Edward VII Memorial Hospital. The hospital has twelve beds, an operating theatre, quarters for nurses, stores, and an out-patient department. Outside buildings provide an office and workshop for the Dental Surgeon, and also a drug store and laboratory. An improved type of X-ray apparatus has been installed.

The staff of the Medical Department includes the Senior Medical Officer, two Medical Officers, one of whom is stationed on the West Falkland Island, a Dental Surgeon, a Nurse Matron and a qualified Nursing Sister, in addition to junior nurses locally recruited and trained.

A Medical Officer made periodical tours of the North-East Falkland, the remainder of the East Falkland being under the Falkland Islands Company's Medical Officer stationed at Darwin.

During the year the Senior Medical Officer made an extensive tour of the East Falkland and certain settlements in the West Falkland.

The out-patient department of the hospital provides ante-natal and post-natal services. Maternity nursing services are provided for Stanley and outlying districts.

During the year 1935, 239 persons were admitted to the hospital as compared with 102 in the previous year and 1,837 new cases were

seen in the out-patients' department. Five deaths occurred in hospital; 230 operations were performed as compared with 93 in the previous year.

The medico-electrical section of the out-patient department has carried out successful work during the year with radiant heat, vapour and Turkish baths, especially valuable in skin disease and muscular rheumatism.

Artificial sunlight treatment has been carried out in cases of adenitis and anaemia in children, and also in cases of tubercular bone and joint diseases.

In the town of Stanley sewage is disposed of partly by the water-carriage system and partly by the earth-closet method. It is satisfactory to record that the number of inhabitants taking advantage of water-carriage facilities is steadily increasing. The night soil from earth closets is removed by means of special carts under the control of the Public Works Department. The disposal of sewage, which is deposited in the harbour, is efficient, as it is carried out to sea by the strong tidal currents.

In accordance with the Public Health by-laws, all ashes and household refuse must be stored in properly constructed bins which are required to be emptied once a month at least. This system is found to work satisfactorily.

The water supply is wholesome and satisfactory. Water is brought by pipe-line from a distance of three miles and stored in a reservoir and a tank with an aggregate capacity approximating to 500,000 gallons. Distributing mains have now been extended so as to serve the whole of Stanley. The inhabitants have taken advantage of the facilities offered, and the use of rain water from tanks and barrels is gradually disappearing.

The system of roads in Stanley is now adequate to present needs. The drainage system of the town continues to be improved.

There are three licensed slaughter-houses in Stanley: these were inspected with reasonable frequency and were found to comply with the Board of Health by-laws. Meat for human consumption was also inspected at regular intervals.

Dairies were inspected from time to time and found to be satisfactory.

Bi-annual rat weeks continued, with considerable success; rats appear to have diminished as a result, but they are still numerous enough to warrant periodical poison-baiting of rubbish dumps, waste lands and the foreshore.

V.—HOUSING.

A number of new houses were erected during the year. The buildings are of a suitable type, and conform to the requirements of the Board of Health both as regards construction and sanitary

arrangements. There is no overcrowding in Stanley, the rate of building being adequate to the needs of the population. A large number of the wage-earning population own their own houses and building loans are made in suitable cases, by the Government, to facilitate the construction of new houses. The Government maintains sufficient accommodation for its officials, and two blocks of tenement dwellings which are rented to the more necessitous families in the community.

The Sanitary Inspector inspects regularly all premises in the town, and householders are required to keep them in as sanitary a condition as circumstances permit. Fower is vested in the Board of Health to condemn premises as unfit for human occupation. In general terms the housing of the people may be said to be fully satisfactory.

VI.—PRODUCTION.

For practical purposes wool is the sole product of the Colony at the present time. It is all exported in the grease to London; skins and tallow are also shipped together with a limited quantity of hides. Sheep are run on farms varying in extent from 24,000 acres to 150,000 acres, and carrying on the average between 8,000 and 35,000 sheep, or say, three to five acres to every sheep.

Statistics are not kept of the actual quantity of wool produced in any one year, as distinct from the acutal quantity exported, but the production of wool over the five-year period ended on the 31st of October, 1935, may be taken as four million pounds annually. The actual return of wool exported during 1935, was 4,195,052 lb. valued at £109,381, or 202,068 lb. more than the preceding year. The average price realized was between 7d. and 8d. per lb.

Hides and skins exported were valued at £6,927, as against £9,257 in the preceding year, or a decrease of £2,330.

Live Stock.—During the year a number of rams were imported from the United Kingdom and from New Zealand for the purpose of improving flocks in the Colony.

Seal oil.—The Falkland Islands and Dependencies Sealing Company, Limited, which has confined its activities hitherto to the production of oil from hair seal, operated in 1935 and was successful in producing some 300 tons of oil valued at £4,135.

General.—The Colony has no resources of known value apart from the commodities above described. Agriculture can hardly be said to exist, but forage crops are produced to a limited extent.

VII.—COMMERCE.

The aggregate value of trade for the year was £225,142 as compared with £234,661 for the previous year. Imports showed an increase of £8,894 and exports a decrease of £18,413.

The following table shows under the principal heads the respective values for the past five years:—

| | | Import | 'S. | | | |
|-------------------------------------|---|------------------|---------|--------------|---------|---------|
| 1 | | 1931. | 1932. | 1933. | 1934. | 1935. |
| | | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| Food, drink, and to | bacco | 40,267 | 33,117 | 28,858 | 35,113 | 32,741 |
| Raw materials and | | 10.000 | 0.010 | ~ 000 | 0.105 | 10 210 |
| mainly unmanufac Articles wholly or | | 12,093 | 8,210 | 5,902 | 9,125 | 10,513 |
| manufactured | ··· ··· | 56,965 | 39,561 | 33,729 | 45,644 | 48,599 |
| Miscellaneous and un | | 1,415 | 1,162 | 747 | 1,315 | 8,988 |
| Bullion and specie | ••• | 35 | | 25 | 750 | |
| | | | | | | |
| Total imports | ••• | £110,775 | 82,050 | 69,261 | 91,947 | 100,841 |
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| | | EXPOR | rs. | | | |
| | | 1931. | 1932. | 1933. | 1934. | 1935. |
| | | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| Wool | | 125,818 | 109,475 | 100,749 | 130,325 | 109,381 |
| Hides and skins | | 8,941 | 5,119 | 8,807 | 9,257 | 6,927 |
| Tallow | • | 1,860 | 1,150 | 1,768 | 1,867 | 2,070 |
| Live stock | ••• | | 246 | 4.000 | | 457 |
| Seal oil | • | | 5,000 | 4,660 | 16 | 4,135 |
| Bullion and specie Other articles | • • • • • • • | $8,000 \\ 2,334$ | 957 | 988 | 1,249 | 1,331 |
| Other articles | ••• | 2,004 | 301 | <i>J</i> C O | | 1,001 |
| Total exports | | £146,953 | 121,947 | 116,972 | 142,714 | 124,301 |

Imports.

The principal articles imported during 1935 were, in value:—

| | | | | | | | | t | | |
|--------|------------|--------|----------|-------|-------|-------|--------|-------|---|---|
| | Provision | S | • • • | • • • | • • • | • • • | 2 | 0,345 | | |
| | Hardware | · | • • • | • • • | • • • | • • • | 1 | 4,522 | , | |
| | Drapery, | etc. | • • • | • • • | • • • | • • • | • • • | 4,384 | | |
| | Coal, coke | e, and | oil fuel | • • • | • • • | • • • | • • • | 1,891 | | |
| | Timber | • • • | • • • | • • • | • • • | • • • | • • • | 7,467 | | |
| | Paints, et | c. | • • • | • • • | • • • | • • • | • • • | 4,577 | | |
| | Chemicals | S | • • • | • • • | • • • | • • • | • • • | 4,222 | , | |
| and in | quantitie | es: | | | | | | | | |
| | Beer | • • • | * * * | • • • | ••• | | 12,182 | gal. | | |
| | Spirits | • • • | • • • | • • • | • • • | • • • | 2,731 | ,, | | |
| | Tobacco | • • • | • • • | • • • | • • • | • • • | 13,125 | lb. | | |
| | Wines | • • • | • • • | • • • | • • • | • • • | 978 | gal. | | |
| 3951 | 17 | | | | | | | | A | 4 |

Approximately 70 per cent. of the total imports came from the United Kingdom.

The countries of origin were as follows:—

| United Kingdor Other parts of t | | | ••• | | £ 71,561 6,624 |
|------------------------------------|---|--------|-------|-------|----------------------|
| Total from | the British 1 | Empire | • • • | £ | 78,185 |
| Uruguay | | ••• | • • • | | 9,118 |
| Argentine | • | • • • | • • • | | 3,904 |
| Brazil | ••• | | | • • • | 2,272 |
| Chile | • | - | | | 6,209 |
| Other countries | | ••• | ••• | • • • | 1,153 |
| Total from | foreign coun | tries | • • • | £ | ${22,656}$ |

Exports.

Almost the entire trade continued, as in previous years, to be with the United Kingdom, shipments to other countries being inconsiderable, totalling only £895. The following is a comparative table showing the quantities exported during the past five years:—

| | 1931. | 1932. | 1933. | 1934. | 1935. |
|----------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Wool (lb.) | 3,931,595 | 3,934,852 | 4,021,444 | 3,992,984 | 4,159,052 |
| Tallow $(lb.)$ | 275,520 | 164,642 | 425,712 | 235,200 | 234,655 |
| Hides and sheepskins | 73,566 | 56,565 | 77,679 | 100,844 | 81,092 |
| - (No.) | | | | | |
| Seal oil (barrels) | | 1,701 | 1,806 | 8 | 2,006 |

VIII.—WAGES AND COST OF LIVING.

The average rate of wages for unskilled labour is 1s. 2d. an hour, and for skilled labour, 1s. 4d. an hour. Artisans receive 1s. 7d. an hour. The hours of work are eight a day, with a total of 40 to 45 hours a week.

In domestic service, monthly wages with board and lodging, for housemaids vary from £2 to £3 10s.; for cooks, from £3 to £4 10s.

Owing to the continued depression in the sheep-farming industry there was little or no reduction in the number of men seeking employment in Stanley, some of whom received relief work in the form of clearing ground and planting tussac grass; this work was carried out in connection with a scheme for improving the pastures of the Stanley Common. The policy of employing men on works undertaken by the Government solely to meet the unemployment situation was discontinued in 1935 and in April it became necessary to introduce the dole to relieve distress. Relief was granted to an average of 43 applicants during the 39 weeks ended on the 31st of December. The cost amounted to £2,322.

On the farm stations wages ranged from £5 to £8 a month, quarters, fuel, meat and milk found.

The cost of living has varied little during the year. The average

prices of the main articles of food were as follows:—

Mutton 3d. per lb. Beef 5d. per lb. Pork, fresh... ls. per lb. Fowls 2s. to 3s. each. 2d. to 3d. per lb. Fish, fresh ... 2s. to 3s. per dozen. Eggs 8d. to 1s. per quart. Milk • • • $1\frac{1}{2}$ d. to 3d. per lb. Potatoes • • • Bread ls. per 4 lb. loaf. • • • • • • Sugar 4d. per lb. 2s. to 3s. per lb. Tea Coffee 1s. 10d. to 2s. 6d. per lb. . . . Fresh vegetables ... 5d. per lb. Butter (imported)... ls. 6d. per lb. . . .

The supply of fresh fish, fowls, and fresh pork is uncertain and irregular and in consequence diet is somewhat limited in variety.

On the whole the cost of living is moderate. There are no hotels in Stanley in the accepted sense of the term, but there are several boarding-houses which offer a reasonable degree of comfort and convenience at charges ranging from £2 2s. 0d. to £3 3s. 0d. per week.

Unfurnished houses for workmen cost from £2 to £3 10s. 0d. per

month.

In the majority of cases the Government provides houses for its officials. Houses, if not provided by the Government, are difficult to obtain and the average rent of an unfurnished house suitable for occupation by an official is £50 a year.

IX.—EDUCATION AND WELFARE INSTITUTIONS.

The education of children between the ages of five and fourteen years residing in Stanley is compulsory. In Stanley there are two elementary schools, one maintained by the Government and one under Roman Catholic management. Provision is also made at the Government school for attendance at a continuation class for a two-year course of more advanced study. Grants are made in approved cases to enable children from country districts to be taught in Stanley.

For the benefit of children who are unable to come to Stanley, the Government maintains three itinerant schoolmasters on the West

Falkland Island and one on the East Falkland Island.

The Falkland Islands Company, Limited, also maintains a schoolmaster at its settlement at Darwin, and in addition certain itinerant schoolmasters for service in the outlying districts of Lafonia.

There are no facilities in the Colony for higher or vocational education.

There are no Government institutions, orphanages, or Poor Law institutions, and there is no legislative provision for maintenance in the event of accident, sickness, or for old age.

Poor relief is granted by the Government in certain necessitous cases. The cost in 1935 amounted to £305.

A society known as the Stanley Benefit Club insures its members for sickness and death.

There are three social clubs, namely, the Colony Club, the Falkland Club and the Working Men's Social Club.

There are football, badminton, golf, and hockey clubs, all of which are flourishing.

The Stanley Sports Association holds an annual sports meeting in December of each year for horse racing and athletic events.

The Defence Force Rifle Association, which is affiliated to the National Rifle Association, holds an annual meeting at Stanley on the lines of those held at Bisley. A team from the Falkland Islands was successful in winning the Junior Kolapore Cup at Bisley in 1930, and again in 1934. It is a matter for regret that it was not found possible to send a representative team to Bisley in 1935, but hopes are entertained of renewing in 1936 the Colony's participation in this competition and in the Junior Mackinnon competition. Indoor shooting on the modern and well-equipped miniature range in the Drill Hall is also very popular during the winter months. The team selected from the members of the local Miniature Rifle Association succeeded in winning the Colonial Rifle Association's Small-Bore Match in the years 1932 and 1934. The local Miniature Rifle Association was also successful in winning the Dominions Small Bore Trophy in 1933.

Physical training forms an important part of the regular curriculum of the Government school and in it are included football, hockey and gymnastics, as well as the formal Swedish drill.

There are also public baths, and a well-equipped gymnasium.

The Town Hall, Stanley, is well equipped with modern appliances for theatrical productions. It can seat an audience of 500 people in comfort and safety. It has a very fine dance floor and is much used for that purpose particularly during the winter months.

The Boy Scouts, Girl Guides, and Rover Sea Scouts continued their useful work. There are also troops of Cubs and Brownies.

There is one cinema in Stanley. There is also a public library at which books to suit every taste may be obtained.

X.—COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORT.

Communication between Stanley and the outside world is effected principally through Montevideo to which port a service is maintained by the s.s. *Lafonia*, a vessel of some 600 tons dead weight,

belonging to the Falkland Islands Company, Limited, and running on a mail contract for a period of five years from October, 1931. In addition, calls homeward and outward are made at Stanley at irregular and infrequent intervals by cargo vessels of the Pacific Steam-Navigation Company, Limited.

The distance from Stanley to Montevideo is rather more than a thousand miles and the time taken on the voyage by the s.s. Lafonia averages four and a half days, and by other vessels from three to five days according to the class of vessel.

The average time occupied in the transit of mails to and from the United Kingdom, via Montevideo, is 26 days; by the direct route passenger vessels complete the journey in the same time and the cargo vessels require upwards of a month to five weeks on the voyage home, which is performed almost invariably from Stanley to London without intermediate stop, and on the outward voyage upwards of five weeks dependent on the number of intermediate stops.

On the average, opportunities for the receipt and despatch of mails are available every four to five weeks.

Provisional arrangements were made with the Falkland Islands Company, Limited, for the maintenance of communication with South Georgia by the s.s. *Lafonia* which makes two voyages during the year. The time taken on the voyage between Stanley and South Georgia averages three and a half days.

A wireless station for external traffic is operated by the Government at Stanley under the style of the Falkland Islands Radio. Regular cummunication is maintained direct with London and Montevideo, while the South Georgia Radio at Grytviken provides a link between Stanley and that Dependency.

Telegraph charges to the United Kingdom are 2s. 6d. a word for "ordinary", 1s. 3d. a word for "deferred", and 1s. 6d. a word for "code" messages.

There are no submarine cables.

The postal rate for the United Kingdom and the Empire is one penny per ounce.

At the end of 1935 there were 89 wireless sets licensed.

The Government maintains a broadcast relay service. The licence for subscribers to this service is £1 per annum and the number of licences issued in 1935 was 107. The principal overseas programmes are relayed from the Broadcasting Studio to subscribers. Local programmes of gramophone records are also given, as well as news and sports items from England.

There are no railways in the Colony. Certain roads suitable for motor traffic have been constructed to a limited extent. Internal

communication is carried out on horseback or by boat. The interinsular service for mails and passengers is carried out by the s.s. Lafonia.

There are no inland telegraphs, but a telephone system is maintained by the Government in Stanley both for official and general use. In the outlying districts privately-owned lines join up with the Stanley system on the East Falkland, and on the West Falkland converge at Fox Bay, where the Government also maintains a small radio station for the purpose of local traffic. Two farm stations have constructed radio stations of low power for local communication.

There are no omnibuses or tramways in the Colony and no air mail and passenger service.

XI.—BANKING, CURRENCY, AND WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

The only bank in the Colony is the Government Savings Bank. The rate of interest paid is $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. per annum. At the close of the Bank's financial year on the 30th of September, 1935, the total sum deposited was £228,896, and the number of depositors, 1,055. The average amount standing to the credit of each depositor was £217, or about £95 per head of the population.

There is no agricultural or co-operative bank or similar institution

in the Colony.

Remittances for the credit of any person or firm in the Colony can be made through the Commissioner of Currency and the Crown Agents for the Colonies, a charge being payable at the rate of one per cent. A similar service is undertaken by the Falkland Islands Company, Limited, who act generally as bankers or financial agents for the farm stations.

The legal tender currency is British sterling and paper currency of 10s., £1 and £5 notes issued by the Colonial Government under the Falkland Islands Currency Notes Ordinance, 1930. It is estimated that on 31st December, 1935, there were £3,000 of coin and £22,000 of currency notes in circulation.

The system of weights and measures in use in the Colony is the

same as that in the United Kingdom.

XII.—PUBLIC WORKS.

During the year work on the construction of roads towards and through the peat deposits was continued. The main road is in the direction of Eliza Cove situated on the south shore of the East Islands and passes through some 200,000 cubic yards of peat.

An annex containing improved kitchen, dining room, stores, etc., which forms part of the scheme for the proposed extension and improvement of the King Edward VII Memorial Hospital was

completed and occupied.

In the year under review a 500 millimetre beacon with steel housing containing a battery of six acetylene accumulators, also accommodation for two spare sets of accumulators, was erected on the southern extreme promontory of Cape Meredith, West Falkland Island. The light is unwatched and controlled by sun-valve. It was the gift of John Hamilton, Esquire, of Weddell Island.

Paths and approaches to the Stanley Cemetery were reconditioned by laying down 2,000 yards run of concrete kerbing and re-shingling. Water was laid on and the general drainage improved.

Footpaths to Government House were replaced by concrete motor roads leading from the main road and passing through the paddock with "passa libres" or cattle stops at entrance and exit.

Alterations were carried out at the Police Station to provide for the transfer of the telephone exchange from the Town Hall thus enabling the police to attend emergency calls during silent hours.

During the year there was a steady demand for water connections, and installations of hot water systems, baths and water closets. These were all dealt with from the existing water supply which is being heavily taxed. An increased supply is under consideration for 1936.

General improvements were effected in the town of Stanley especially in regard to the drainage facilities in the upper reaches of the town. The mileage of roads treated with bitumen solution was extended.

In addition to its other activities, the Public Works Department undertakes the usual maintenance services, including conservancy, and water supply for the town. The Department is also responsible for the considerable quantity of peat fuel which is required for Government services. To its charge are committed, furthermore, the general upkeep of all Government buildings and property, in particular of plant, sea-walls, bridges, fences, jetties and harbour lights, and in addition, the maintenance of the lights on William Point, Porpoise Point on the East Falkland, and Cape Meredith on the West Falkland.

An average number of 92 men, exclusive of monthly employees, was on the pay roll during the year, as compared with 137 in 1934. The total expenditure incurred under Public Works and Electrical votes was £24,135 in 1935.

XIII.—JUSTICE AND POLICE.

The judicial system of the Colony is administered by a Supreme Court, in which the Governor sits alone as Judge, and a Magistrate's Court in Stanley. The majority of the farm managers are Justices of the Peace, and as such, have power to deal with minor offences. The local Police Force consists of four constables and

a chief Constable and is stationed entirely in Stanley. The chief Constable is also Gaoler-in-charge of the gaol in Stanley, which accommodates only short-sentence prisoners.

In general the Colony shows a remarkable absence of crimes of violence, while serious crime of any description is rare. Cases of petty theft and of injury to property, however, occur from time to time. Seventeen persons were dealt with in 1935 in the Summary Court and of this number 15 were convicted. No criminal issue came before the Supreme Court during the year; one case came before the juvenile court.

The prison in Stanley was inspected regularly by the medical authority and was found to be in a clean and satisfactory condition.

XIV.—LEGISLATION.

Nine Ordinances were passed by the Legislative Council in 1935. In addition to the Supplementary Appropriation (1934) Ordinance, No. 3, and the Appropriation (1935) Ordinance, No. 8, the following measures were enacted:—

No. 1.—The Sentence of Death (Expectant Mothers) Amendment Ordinance, amending the principal Ordinance.

No. 2.—The Dangerous Drugs (Amendment) Ordinance, en-

acting a minor amendment to existing legislation.

No. 4.—The Senior Medical Officer (Designation) Ordinance, substituting the designation "Senior Medical Officer" for the designation "Colonial Surgeon" in certain Ordinances and subsidiary legislation.

No. 5.—The Falkland Islands Currency Notes (Amendment) Ordinance, deleting Section 8 from the principal Ordinance.

No. 6.—The Administration of Justice (Amendment) Ordinance, relating to the appointment of Judge.

No. 7.—The Immigration Ordinance, to control immigration

into the Colony.

No. 9.—The Tariff (Export Duties) Amendment Ordinance, fixing the special rate of duty on export of whale oil and seal oil during the 1935-6 and 1936 seasons, respectively, at 1s. 6d. for each barrel of 40 gallons.

The following subsidiary legislation was also enacted during the year:—

Proclamation, dated 21st February, prohibiting the export including re-export, to Paraguay of arms and war materials.

Proclamation dated 29th July, repealing the above Proclamation.

Order in Council deleting certain wild birds from Schedules I and II and adding the Cape Horn Otter to Schedule I of the Wild Animals and Birds Protection (Amendment) Ordinance, 1913.

Regulations governing the award of the Colonial Police and Fire Brigades Long Service Medal.

Regulations enacting minor amendments to existing legislation, regarding Wireless Telegraphy.

Regulations prescribing the fees to be charged for admission to the King Edward VII Memorial Hospital, Medicines, Dressings, and Medical comforts, and Maternity cases, the services of Medical Officers and for Dental treatment.

Regulations relating to the award of the Efficiency Decoration and Efficiency Medal.

Regulations providing for the employment of local stevedores in loading and unloading ships trading to ports in the Colony.

XV.—PUBLIC FINANCE AND TAXATION.

The revenue of the Colony for the year 1935 from all sources was £49,813 as compared with £102,700 in 1934, and from ordinary sources £49,633 as compared with £55,275 in 1934. The decrease in revenue from all sources between 1934 and 1935 was principally due to the following extraordinary items brought to account in 1934:—Appreciation of Investments £37,906, Profit on Sale and Transfer of Stock £8,403 and Land Sales Fund £1,116. The shortfall of the 1935 ordinary Revenue as compared with the 1934 figures is attributable mainly to surplus interest from the Savings Bank, from which source it was anticipated that £3,950 would accrue to Revenue, after the amount required to meet interest on Deposits had been met. Surplus interest was however £2,693 and as the Savings Bank Deposits during the year were abnormal, this amount together with the sum of £3,966 which was found necessary to provide under Expenditure was credited to the Savings Bank Fund, to bring the securities up to 110 per cent. of the value of the deposits in the Bank. Added to this, there was a reduction of £1,916 in the amount received by way of contribution from Dependencies.

The expenditure on recurrent services was £44,829 or more by £7,310 than in 1934, and less by £4,804 than the revenue from ordinary sources.

The principal causes contributing to the excess expenditure on recurrent services in 1935 were:—the sum of £3,966 required for the Savings Bank Fund and £2,322 for Unemployment Relief. In addition to expenditure on recurrent services, sums of £13,211 and £1,766 were expended on Public Works Extraordinary and Depreciation of Investments respectively.

The revenue from all sources during the year was less than the expenditure of £59,806 by £9,993.

The following table gives the comparative figures of the expenditure and the revenue for the past five years:—

| | | | Reve | nue. | Expenditure. | | |
|------|-------|-------|-----------|---------|--------------|--------|--|
| | | | Ordinary. | Total. | Ordinary. | Total. | |
| | | | £ | £ | £ | £ | |
| 1931 | • • • | • • • | 51,805 | 78,397 | 38,977 | 72,676 | |
| 1932 | | • • • | 64,199 | 98,463 | 38,711 | 54,798 | |
| 1933 | • • • | | 59,333 | 66,417 | 37,156 | 52,335 | |
| 1934 | | • • • | 101,584 | 102,700 | 37,519 | 54,463 | |
| 1935 | • • • | ••• | 49,633 | 49,813 | 44,829 | 59,806 | |

The Colony has no public debt. The excess of assets over liabilities on 31st December, 1935, amounted to £296,904, made up as follows:—

| • | | | | £ |
|-----------------|-------|-----|-------|----------|
| Land Sales Fund | ••• | | • • • | 241,200 |
| Other Surplus | • • • | ••• | ••• | 55,704 |
| | | | | £296,904 |

The Colony's Reserve Fund on 31st December, 1935, amounted to £34,000.

The main heads of taxation are:—

- 1. Customs import and export duties.
- 2. Rates levied on house property.

The Customs import duties are on wines, malt, spirits, tobacco and matches, at the following rates:—

Wines ... 3s. a gallon in bulk or 3s. 6d. a dozen bottles of reputed pints.

Malt ... 6d. a gallon in bulk or 6d. a dozen bottles of reputed pints.

Spirits ... 20s. a gallon. Tobacco ... 4s. a pound.

Matches ... For every gross of boxes not exceeding 10,000 matches, 4s.

A preferential rate of nine-tenths of the full duty is allowed on tobacco and cigarettes of Empire production and manufacture and matches of Empire manufacture and provenance are admitted duty free.

Export duties are collected on wool, whale oil and seal oil at the following rates:—

Wool ls. for every 25 lb.

Whale oil and seal oil ... 1s. 6d. for every barrel of forty gallons, or 9s. a ton.

The yield in 1935 from each source was as follows:—

| | | | | £ |
|------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Import Duties | • • • | • • • | • • • | 5,807 |
| Export Duties | • • • | • • • | • • • | 8,553 |
| Rate on house property | • • • | | • • • | 849 |

There are no excise or stamp duties and no hut tax or poll tax.

PART II.—THE DEPENDENCIES.

I.—GEOGRAPHY, CLIMATE, AND HISTORY.

General.

The Dependencies are divided into two main groups, the one consisting of South Georgia with the South Orkneys and the South Sandwich Islands, and the other of the South Shetlands with Graham's Land.

Geography.

The island of South Georgia lies about 800 miles to the east of the Falkland Islands, in $54\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$ south latitude, the South Orkneys and the South Sandwich Islands being 450 miles to the southwest and south-east, respectively, of South Georgia. The northern point of the South Shetlands is about 500 miles to the south of the Falkland Islands. South Georgia with the South Orkneys and South Sandwich group of Dependencies is bounded by the fiftieth parallel of south latitude and by the twentieth and fiftieth meridians of west longitude, and the South Shetlands and Graham's Land by the fifty-eighth parallel of south latitude and by the meridians of longitude 50 and 80 west. South Georgia is the principal island in the Dependencies and is the only portion of them inhabited throughout the year except for the meteorological station which is maintained by the Argentine Government on Laurie Island in the South Orkneys. It has an area of about 1,450 square miles (statute), is about 100 miles in length with a maximum breadth of 20 miles, and consists mainly of steep mountains from which glaciers descend. There is but little flat land and the island is almost entirely barren, the south-west side being permanently frozen. The main vegetation is some coarse grass which grows on the northeastern side of the island, where the snow melts in the summer. There are no indigenous quadrupeds other than seals but reindeer have been introduced and are thriving well. There are many sea-birds including penguins and albatrosses. The sea-elephant, the sea-leopard and the Weddell's seal frequent its shores. coast line has been indifferently charted but much useful work has been done in this direction during the past five years by the "Discovery" Expedition.

Climate.

Although Grytviken in Cumberland Bay, South Georgia, is little over a 100 miles further south than Stanley the difference in climate is very marked, that of the former approximating closely to conditions in the Antarctic. The mountains are ice-bound and snow-capped throughout the year and glaciers descend on the grand scale right to the sea. During the year 1935 the average mean temperature was 33.35° F. Rain fell on 67 days and snow or sleet on 146 days.

Within recent years instances of volcanic activity at Deception Island, South Shetlands, have been frequent. The first earthquake of which there is any definite record occurred in 1923, though it is stated by some of the whaling community that shocks were felt in 1912. In February, 1924, a strong tremor was experienced when a large rock forming the crest of a natural arch, and known locally as the "Sewing Machine," at the approach to Port Foster was disturbed, and, in 1925, during the absence of the whaling factory Ronald, one of the giant columns in the entrance of the harbour disappeared. Again, in the season 1928-9 several earthquake shocks were felt, the most pronounced being in March, 1929, when a large quantity of rock fell, completely changing the formation of the ridge on the east side of the harbour. The water in the harbour of Port Foster frequently becomes agitated by the subterranean heat, the shores in places being completely obscured by the dense vapour emitted.

History.

South Georgia and the South Shetland Islands were sighted and taken possession of for Great Britain by Captain Cook in 1775, and the South Orkneys were discovered by Captain Powell of the ship Dove who landed on Coronation Island 7th December, 1821, and took possession of the group in the name of King George IV. The South Shetlands were discovered by Mr. W. Smith in the brig Williams in 1819 and were examined by Captain Bransfield in 1820. Captain Bransfield also discovered the first part of Graham's Land and Mr. John Biscoe discovered the west coast in 1832. Profitable sealing voyages to South Georgia were made prior to 1793 and British whalers are reported there in The fur-seal industry in the Dependencies achieved such proportions in the early part of the nineteenth century that expeditions were made to them in the two seasons 1820-1 and 1821-2 by no less than 91 vessels. So recklessly did they slaughter, however, that they are said practically to have exterminated the furseal, James Weddell stating that in 1822-4 these animals were almost extinct.

The meteorological station on Laurie Island in the South Orkneys to which reference has been already made was established in 1903 by the Scottish Antarctic Expedition under Mr. W. Bruce and was transferred by him in 1904 to the Argentine Government. Valuable contributions to the survey of the Dependencies have been made in recent years by the ships under the direction of the Discovery Committee, particularly the R.R.S. Discovery II. Knowledge of the South Georgia coast was much advanced in the years 1926-30, the South Sandwich group was surveyed in 1930, extensive running surveys were made in the South Orkneys in 1933, and from time to time in the South Shetlands.

II.—GOVERNMENT.

Constitutionally the Dependencies are subject to the same authority as the Colony proper, that is to say to the Governor and to the Executive and Legislative Councils. Ordinances enacted by the latter body, however, in respect of the Colony do not have application to the Dependencies unless they are specially applied.

The Dependencies, is contradistinction to the Colony, are peopled almost exclusively and utilized mainly by foreigners and are governed from the Falkland Islands with a central administration in common. A resident magistrate and official staff are maintained at South Georgia, and control over whaling operations in the other Dependencies is carried out by representatives of the Government who accompany the expeditions.

There is no local government in South Georgia; in fact there are no communities other than the whaling stations which are run by the managers on behalf of the several companies owning them.

III.—POPULATION.

There is no permanent population in the Dependencies except in South Georgia where the figures fluctuate with the seasons of the whaling industry. The population in South Georgia is resident either at the privately-owned whaling stations or at the Government Headquarters at King Edward Cove in Cumberland Bay. During the summer it approximates to 700, practically all males, but during the winter it is not more than one-third of that number. The British inhabitants of South Georgia are limited practically to the Government staff and to the crews of British vessels. The remainder are almost exclusively Norwegian or Scandinavian. Two deaths, no births and no marriages occurred in the Dependencies in 1935.

At the census taken on 26th April, 1931, the number of persons at South Georgia, including shipping, was recorded as 563 and at the South Shetlands as 146; among these one female only appears.

IV.—HEALTH.

There is very little sickness in the Dependencies, even colds being of rare occurrence, though some unhealthiness arises from the lack of fresh food-stuffs.

No Medical Officer is maintained by the Government in the Dependencies, but the whaling companies have their own doctors, the Government contributing a share of the salary of the doctor stationed at Grytviken. At South Georgia there are well-equipped hospitals maintained by the whaling companies.

Weather conditions in 1935 were not unfavourable. Health conditions were relatively good except that the monotony of the climate and the lack of sunshine tended to produce a state of mental depression.

V.—HOUSING.

The question of housing does not really arise in the Dependencies. The officials in South Georgia are suitably housed in the quarters at King Edward Cove, and the arrangements made by the whaling companies to accommodate the personal working on their stations are fully adequate.

VI.—PRODUCTION.

Apart from sealing on a small scale, whaling is the only industry in the Dependencies and whale and seal oil and by-products of the whale, such as guano, their sole produce. Sealing operations are carried on at South Georgia from the 1st March to 31st October. For the season 1935-6, whaling was restricted to the period from 16th September to 31st May.

At South Georgia two stations only conducted whaling operations, the catch being restricted by agreement on a quota basis. The land station at Deception Island remained closed. No floating factories worked under licence from the Government. There was a marked improvement in the whale oil market during the year.

The season was an exceptionally good one and the weather from a whaling point of view throughout the season was favourable.

The catch amounted to 1,785 whales of which 1,221 were blue, 520 fin, 41 humpback and 3 sperm. The number of barrels of oil produced was 143,192 with an average per "standard" whale of 95.90. One hundred and fourteen thousand six hundred and sixty-six bags of guano were also produced.

The following table shows, for comparative purposes, the actual catch, "standard whales", the oil and guano production, and the average for the past five seasons:—

| | | Actual | "Standard" | Oil Produced. | Guano. | Avera | ages. |
|---------|-------|---------|------------|---------------|---------|--------------------|---------------|
| Season. | | Whales. | Whales. | Barrels. | Bags. | Oil. | Guano. |
| 1931–32 | | 2,205 | 1,310 | 124,337 | 113,420 | $94 \cdot 91$ | $86 \cdot 58$ |
| 1932–33 | • • • | 996 | 631 | 54,583 | 49,572 | $86 \cdot 50$ | $78 \cdot 56$ |
| 1933-34 | ••• | 2,364 | 1,431 | 132,190 | 123,996 | $92 \cdot 37$ | $86 \cdot 65$ |
| 1934-35 | | 1,575 | 1,022 | 108,261 | 91,073 | $105 \!\cdot\! 90$ | $89 \cdot 09$ |
| 1935–36 | | 1,785 | 1,493 | 143,192 | 114,666 | $95 \cdot 90$ | 76.80 |

The total value of the season's production is estimated at £468,998, of which £404,572 represents the value of the oil, £63,066 guano, and £1,360 baleen.

As in the three previous seasons a number of Falkland Islands labourers were engaged at the two land stations at South Georgia and on board the floating factories belonging to Messrs. Salvesen.

VII.—COMMERCE.

The value of the total trade of the Dependencies in 1935 was £502,722, of which £177,239 represented imports and £325,483 exports. Of the imports, whale oil (for re-export) accounted for £60,015; coal, coke and oil fuel, £66,801; hardware, £16,199, and provisions £8,143. The exports of whale and seal oil amounted to £250,045, and of guano and bone meal to £64,357.

The following table gives the comparative values of the trade of

the Dependencies during the past five years:—

| | | | £ | £ | £ |
|------|-------|-------|----------|-----------|-----------|
| | | | Imports. | Exports. | Total. |
| 1931 | • • • | ••• | 311,388 | 1,748,467 | 2,059,855 |
| 1932 | • • • | ••• | 228,952 | 369,542 | 598,494 |
| 1933 | • • • | ••• | 200,557 | 337,353 | 537,910 |
| 1934 | • • • | • • • | 204,854 | 455,468 | 660,322 |
| 1935 | • • • | | 177,239 | 325,483 | 502,722 |

The decrease in the value of the import and export trade is due to the continued depression in the whaling industry. Excluding importations and exportations of whale oil from and for the "high seas", about 40 per cent. of the value of the imports came from the United Kingdom. About 90 per cent. of the total exports were shipped to the United Kingdom. The bulk of the coal imported was obtained from the United Kingdom, and of the fuel oil from the Dutch West Indies. About 52 per cent. of the hardware came from the United Kingdom and 43 per cent. from Norway, while provisions show 25 per cent. from Norway, 32 per cent. from the Argentine, and 38 per cent. from the United Kingdom.

During the year 1935 the price of oil ranged from £10 to £19 10s. 0d. a ton according to grade.

VIII.—WAGES AND COST OF LIVING.

Labour in South Georgia and on board the floating factories is especially recruited on contract terms, almost exclusively from Norway. The bonus system on production is generally in vogue, the total earnings of an ordinary labourer ranging from £10 to £15 a month with all found. As there are no shops and no private trade in the Dependencies and as all food-stuffs are provided by the whaling companies for the personnel engaged on their stations the question of the cost of living does not arise.

IX.—EDUCATION AND WELFARE INSTITUTIONS.

There are three children only in the Dependencies and therefore the problem of education does not arise. The whaling companies operating in South Georgia run private cinematograph shows for the benefit of the men employed on their stations. Interest is taken in football and in other forms of sport such as ski-ing during the winter months, when there is deep snow.

X.—COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORT.

Provisional arrangements were made with the Falkland Islands Company, Limited, for two voyages by their s.s. Lafonia during the year for the purpose of conveying mails to and from South Georgia. During the whaling season direct sailings from Europe to South Georgia and vice versa are in the normal course not infrequent, and there is a fairly reliable service three times in the year between Buenos Aires and Grytviken furnished by the motor auxiliary s.v. Tijuca of the Compania Argentina de Pesca. The majority of the vessels of the high seas whaling fleet call at South Georgia on their way to the fishing grounds in October and on their return journey in April.

Mails are received and despatched either direct or via Stanley by opportunities as they offer. In summer no long intervals occur but in winter the delay may on occasions be considerable. Postal rates are the same as from and to the Colony proper.

The Government maintains a wireless station at Grytviken, which is in regular communication with Stanley, through which traffic is passed beyond the limits of the Colony. The Argentine Government is permitted to maintain a wireless station on Laurie Island, in the South Orkneys. There are no railways or roads in the Dependencies. Two floating docks are maintained at South Georgia, one at Grytviken and the other at Stromness Harbour. The dock at Grytviken has an overall length of 133 feet and a breadth of 34 feet with a lifting capacity of 600 tons. It is capable of taking vessels up to 140 feet in length and drawing 15 feet 6 inches. Stromness dock is 150 feet long, 34 feet wide and its lifting capacity is 700 tons. It will take vessels up to 160 feet in length with a draught of 15 feet.

Grytviken, South Georgia, and Port Foster at Deception Island, in the South Shetlands, are the only ports of entry.

The following table shows the number of vessels which entered at South Georgia during 1935:—

| : | St | team. | Sai | ling. |
|----------------------------|-------------|----------|----------|----------|
| Nationality. | Vessels. | Tonnage. | Vessels. | Tonnage. |
| British | 42 | 99,224 | | _ |
| Foreign (mostly Norwegian) | 21 | 24,376 | 2 | 1,468 |
| | | | - | |
| | 63 | 123,600 | 2 | 1,468 |
| | | | | |

XI.—BANKING, CURRENCY, AND WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

No banks—commercial, agricultural, or co-operative—are in existence in the Dependencies. Such facilities as are afforded in the Colony through the Treasury at Stanley, for example, by the Government Savings Bank for deposit or by the Commissioner of Currency for remittances, are available in South Georgia through the agency of the Magistrate at Grytviken.

The legal tender currency is British sterling and Falkland Islands

notes.

Weights and measures are generally British or Norwegian standard. Whale and seal oil is calculated by the barrel at six barrels of forty gallons to the ton, and guano and other by-products of the whale in hundreds of pounds or in kilograms.

XII.—PUBLIC WORKS.

No public works were carried out by the Government during the year.

XIII.—JUSTICE AND POLICE.

The Magistrate, South Georgia, sits at Grytviken in a court of first instance and the Supreme Court of the Colony at Stanley is common to all Dependencies. During 1935 no case of serious crime was brought before the Court. Despite the trying conditions, the personnel of the whaling industry forms a most peaceful and law-abiding community, seldom calling for the intervention of the civil authorities: a fact which in itself speaks highly for the standard of discipline maintained by the managers of the several stations.

XIV.—LEGISLATION.

See under Chapter XIV of Part I of this Report.

XV.—PUBLIC FINANCE AND TAXATION.

The Dependencies' revenue which is derived almost entirely from the whaling industry amounted in 1935 to £12,617. The expenditure excluding that from the Research and Development Fund was £12,617.

The following table shows the comparative figures of revenue and expenditure during the past five years:—

| | | | | Revenue. | Expenditure. | | |
|------|-------|-------|-------|----------|--------------|--|--|
| | | | | £ | £ | | |
| 1931 | | | | 48,133 | 31,129 | | |
| 1932 | • • • | • • • | • • • | 17,446 | 20,143 | | |
| 1933 | • • • | | • • • | 12,081 | 18,384 | | |
| 1934 | • • • | • • • | • • • | 14,892 | 14,892 | | |
| 1935 | | ••• | , | 12,617 | 12,617 | | |

The decrease in the returns of revenue and expenditure is due, as in the immediately preceding years, to the restricted scale on which whaling operations have been conducted.

The Dependencies have no public debt. The surplus of assets over liabilities as at 31st December, 1935, was £332,317, earmarked as follows:—

| "Discovery" Pension Fund | ••• | 6,108 £332,317 |
|--|-------|-----------------------|
| Research and Development Fund "Discovery" Pension Fund | • • • | 326,209 6,108 |

The main heads of taxation are Customs duties on the importation of alcoholic liquors and tobacco, and on the exportation of whale and seal oil and by-products of the whaling industry such as guano. Import duties amounted to £479 in 1935 and export duties to £9,675. The Customs tariff on importation is the same as in the Colony. The export duty on whale and seal oil stood at 1s. 6d. a barrel or 9s. a ton. The export duty on guano is at the rate of $1\frac{1}{2}$ d. per 100 lb.

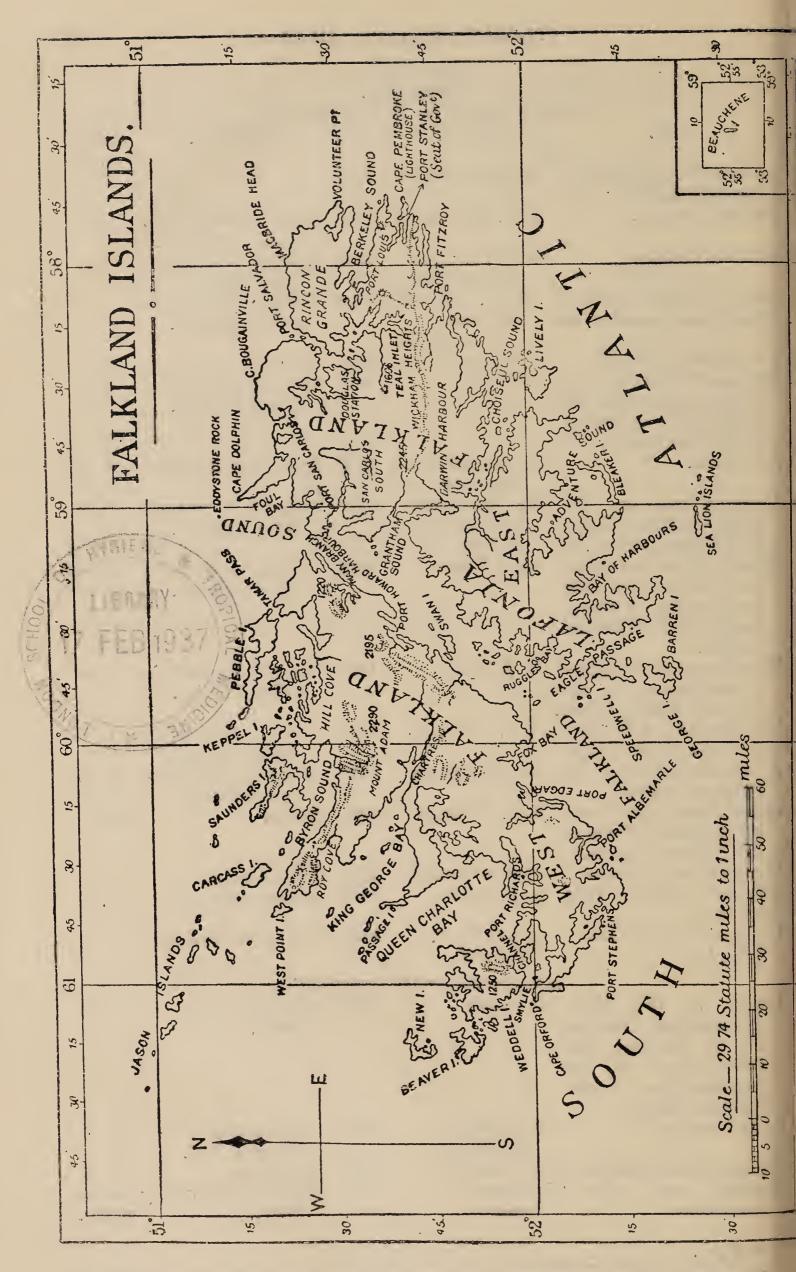
There are no excise or stamp duties, and no hut tax or poll tax.

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